The Social Status of Landed Brewers in Britain since 1840

David Gutzke

Abstract

Service as a county magistrate in mid-Victorian Britain provided a litmus test for social status. According to the conventional interpretation, businessmen were eligible for such appointments only after withdrawing from commercial affairs and acquiring appropriate landed estates. Recent studies of industrial counties demonstrate that the paucity of resident gentry often compelled these strictures to be overlooked. This article adds another dimension, arguing that landed brewers, still active in brewing, became justices of the peace in non-industrial counties as well. Moreover, a significant proportion of forty-three families of brewers named as magistrates after 1840, far from corresponding to the model of third-generation assimilation into the gentry, remained in business for three generations or more.
The legal status of trade unions in the United Kingdom was established by a Royal Commission on Trade Unions in 1867, which agreed that the establishment of the organisations was to the advantage of both employers and employees. Unions were legalised in 1871 with the adoption of the Trade Union Act 1871.  "Trade union organization and skill in the cotton and engineering industries in Britain, 1850–1960." Social History 8#1 (1983): 37-55. International Review of Social History 36#1 (1991): 24-58. ^ Keith Laybourn, A History of British Trade Unionism (1992) pp 72–76. ^ A. E. P.
Duffy, "New Unionism in Britain, 1889–1890: A Reappraisal," Economic History Review (1961) 14#2 pp 306–319. Main page » Non-Fiction » Women and Work in Britain since 1840. Women and Work in Britain since 1840. Published by: gothicca (Karma: 0) on 18 November 2010 | Views: 3199. Tags: research, Women, status, women, considers, Britain. Service as a county magistrate in mid-Victorian Britain provided a litmus test for social status. According to the conventional interpretation, businessmen were eligible for such appointments only after withdrawing from commercial affairs and acquiring appropriate landed estates. Recent studies of industrial counties demonstrate that the paucity of resident gentry often compelled these strictures to be overlooked. Moreover, a significant proportion of forty-three families of brewers named as magistrates after 1840, far from corresponding to the model of third-generation assimilation into the gentry, remained in business for three generations or more. La fonction de juge de paix en Angleterre, au milieu de l’ère victorienne, était un indice de statut social.